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Four Army ROTC cadets commissioned as second lieutenants

DECEMBER 7, 2006

Four Army ROTC cadets at Georgia Southern University were commissioned as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army on Thursday, Dec. 7.

Brandon Bond, Ryan Robert DeMarco, Adam R. Erickson and Leigh Anna Kelner received their commissions during an afternoon ceremony in the Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Building.

Brig. Gen. Jim Huggins, the assistant division commander for maneuver of the 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Ga., was the guest speaker at the ceremony.

Bond attended the Leadership Training Course at Fort Knox, Ky. He was commissioned into the Quartermaster Corps and will attend the Officer Basic Course at Fort Lee, Va.

Bond is a graduate of the Brookwood School in Thomasville, Ga. He is the son of Perry and Kathy Bond.

DeMarco attended the Leadership Development Assessment Course at Fort Lewis, Wash., where he received an excellent rating. He served as the battalion command sergeant major for the Georgia Southern ROTC. He was commissioned into the Quartermaster Corps and will attend the Officer Basic Course at Fort Lee. His first duty station will be with the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Hood, Texas.

DeMarco is a graduate of Vidalia High School in Vidalia, Ga.

Erickson attended Georgia Southern on a four-year Army ROTC scholarship. He graduated from Airborne and Air Assault School and completed Cadet Troop Leadership

Training at Fort Sill, Okla. He served as battalion commander during his senior year at Georgia Southern and received the George C. Marshall ROTC Award. He made the Dean's List and the President's List and graduated with a 3.5 GPA and a B.A. degree in justice studies. He was commissioned into the Aviation Corps.

Erickson is a graduate of the Deerfield-Windsor School in Albany, Ga. He is the son of Richard and Marianne Erickson.

Kelner attended the Nurses Summer Training Program at Fort Bragg, N.C., where she worked in the surgical ward, emergency room, operating room and intensive care unit. She was a member of the Georgia Southern ROTC color guard team for three years and also served as a nurse mentor. She

will attend the Officer Basic Course at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. She wants to specialize in critical care and eventually work on the forward surgical team or as a flight nurse.

Kelner was born in Green Bay, Wis., and later moved to St. Augustine, Fla., with her family. She is the daughter of Thomas and Joyce Kelner.

For more information on the Army ROTC program at Georgia Southern, visit <http://cost.georgiasouthern.edu/rotc/> , email palanier@georgiasouthern.edu , or call (912) 681-5320 or toll free (800) 334-7682.